

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The present invention liberates thermal energy through an oxygen rearrangement reaction between a reactive metal and a metal oxide. One example is the thermite reaction: $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 2\text{Al} \rightarrow 2\text{Fe} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. The invention is capable of doing work by the liberation of a gaseous reaction product, such as ~~hydrogren~~ hydrogen.--